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PATENT Attorney Docket: 17616-705

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re A	Application of	)			
	Hugh R. Sharkey, et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 373	39	
Serial	No.: 08/714,987	)	Examiner: Shay, D.		
Filed:	9/17/96	)		TC	
Title:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED CONTRACTION	) ) . )		COT -	RECE
	OF SOFT TISSUE	)		-6 1999 - 1 1 8 1 - 6 - 1	EIVED
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## **REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 2, 1999. In response to the Office Action, please amend the above-identified application under 37 CFR 1.115 as follows: